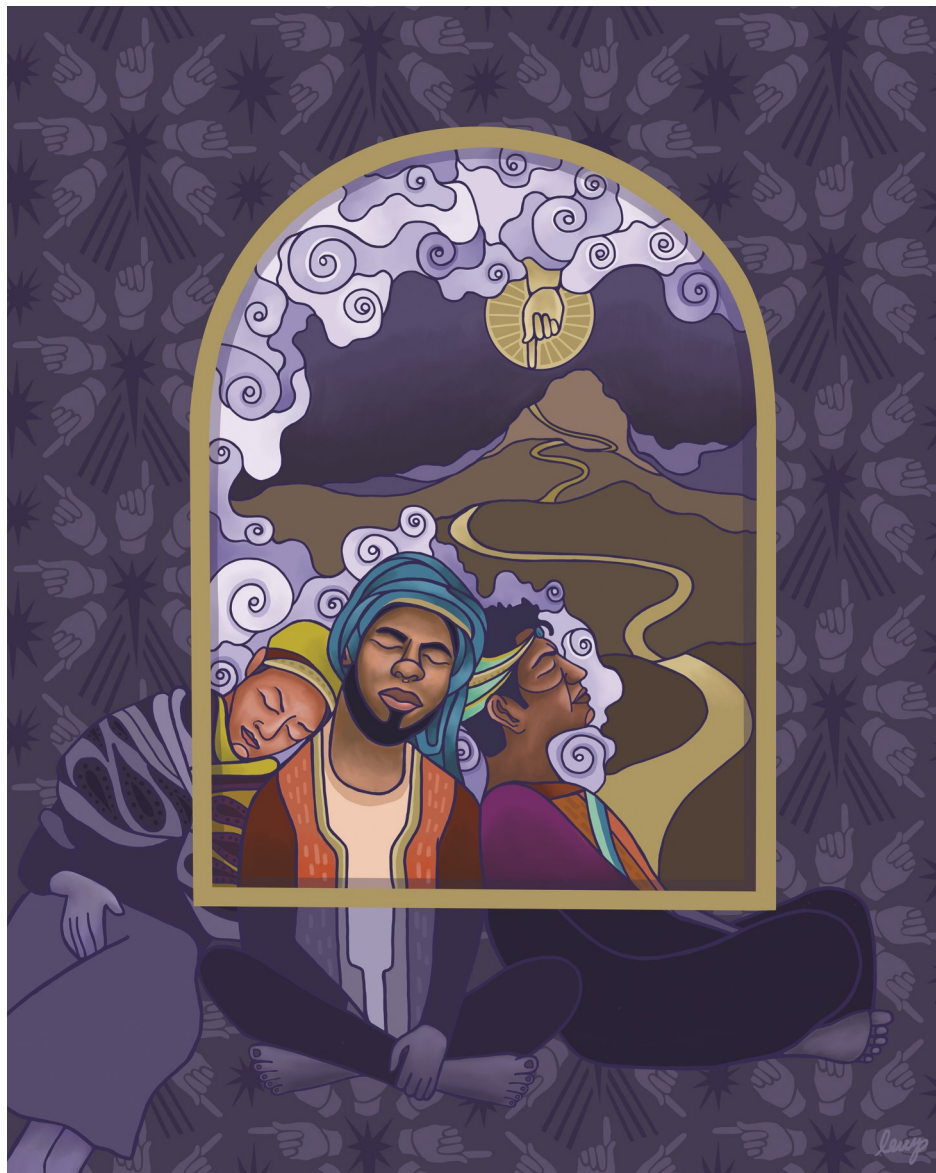


**Second Sunday of Christmas / Epiphany of our Lord  
In-Person and Online Worship Bulletin  
January 5, 2025**



“The Wise Men’s Dream” by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1701 E. Missouri Ave., Las Cruces, NM • (575) 522-7119  
www.peacelutheranlc.com • office@peacelutheranlc.com



[www.facebook.com/peacelutheranlc](https://www.facebook.com/peacelutheranlc)



[www.youtube.com/@peacelutheranchurch1688](https://www.youtube.com/@peacelutheranchurch1688)

# Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church

## Mission Statement

**We are called to be an inclusive community, sharing God's grace through worship, service, and hospitality.**

**We of Peace Lutheran Church welcome all people to full participation in the life of the church regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or physical or mental disability.**

*Children are welcome in any worship service at Peace Lutheran Church.*

**It is a pleasure to have you worship with us this week and we invite you to worship with us again soon. If you are in need of assistance of any kind, please speak with an usher.**

P= Presider, A= Assisting Minister, C= Congregation

**PRELUDE** Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her '*From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*'  
--Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

⊕ ----- GATHERING ----- ⊕

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We begin worship this morning with an Epiphany blessing. Twelfth Night (January 5) or Epiphany of Our Lord (January 6) is an occasion for a blessing of the home. The leaders gather at the doors to the sanctuary for an adapted version of a home blessing.*

## OPENING (from the back of the sanctuary)

P: May peace be to this house and to all who enter here.

As we prepare to ask God's blessing on this house of the church, let us listen to the words of scripture.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace." (John 1:1-4, 14, 16)

# INSCRIPTION

20 ✠ C M B ✠ 25

The magi of old, known as

C Caspar,

M Melchior, and

B Balthasar

followed the star of God's Son who came to dwell among us

20 two thousand

25 and twenty-five years ago.

✠ Christ, bless this house,

✠ and remain with us throughout the new year.

## \*PRAYER OF BLESSING

P: O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star. We pray that you bless this place and all who gather here with your gracious presence. May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

## \*GATHERING HYMN

### The First Noel

ELW 300



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing  
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .  
4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .  
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the  
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it  
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -  
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the  
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

*kefran*



night that was so deep.  
tin - ued both day and night.  
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
place where Je - sus lay.  
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

## \*GREETING

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
C: **And also with you.**

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

- A: Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
C: **Amen.**



## READING

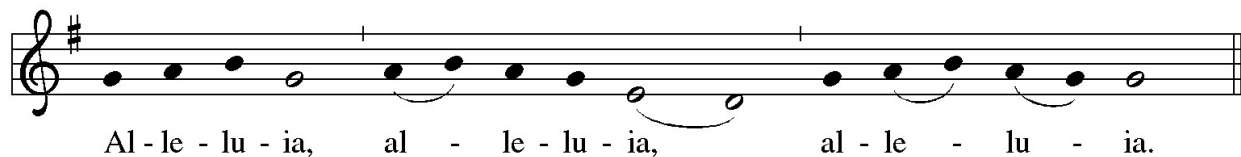
### Ephesians 3: 1-12

<sup>1</sup> This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup> for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup> and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup> a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup> In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup> that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup> Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup> so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

- L: The Word of the Lord  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

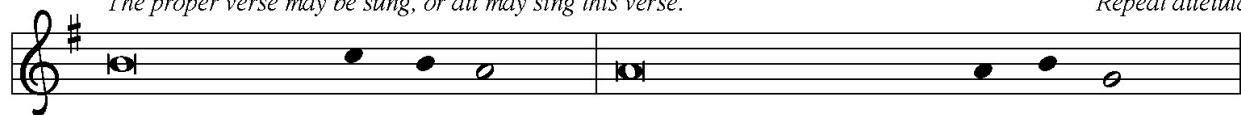
## FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*The proper verse may be sung, or all may sing this verse.*

*Repeat alleluia*



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P: The Gospel according to Matthew, the second chapter  
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

\*GOSPEL

**Matthew 2: 1-12**

<sup>1</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.  
C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Hannah DiPasquale**

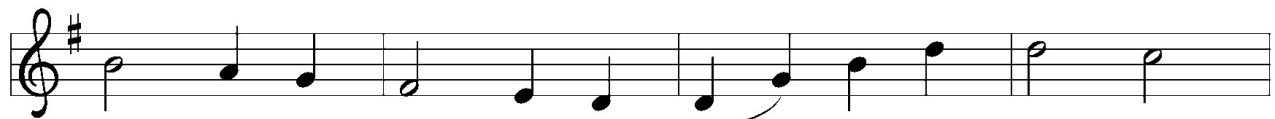
*Silence for Reflection*



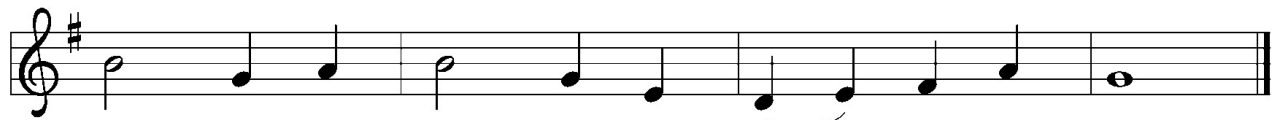
1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
 3 What shall we give him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion?  
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
 5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.  
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
 Shall we bring in - cense and of - f'rings di - vine,  
 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;  
 dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,  
 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
 gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
 rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,  
 Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.  
 mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.  
 myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?  
 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
 guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

## \*THE APOSTLES' CREED

**C:** I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## \*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**A:** God of grace,  
**C:** Receive our prayer.

Saints of Peace:

**Lonnie** Chebret, **Clarence** Hafslund, **Clara** Puga, **Paul** Bushnell

**P:** We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all,  
through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C:** Amen.

## \*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C:** And also with you.

*In-Building: Please share signs of peace in whatever way you are comfortable and  
is respectful of your neighbor's comfort level.*

*Online: You may share signs of peace in the chat .*

⊕ -----MEAL----- ⊕

## OFFERING

*Gifts for the work and ministry of Peace Lutheran Church can be placed in the offering  
plates or mailed to the Church Office or sent through on-line giving on our website.*

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime*

*Campanas de Paz*

Arr. Francis L. Callahan

**\*OFFERTORY**

*Doxology*

Thomas Tallis, c. 1567

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A: God of new beginnings,

**C: We offer these gifts to you today because we love you.  
The world will tell us to keep our money to ourselves,  
to hold it tight, to tuck it away,  
but just as the Magi made a different choice, we make a different choice.  
Instead, we give what we have,  
trusting that when we live like we belong to one another,  
we will see a better world.  
So take these gifts  
and use them for your good.  
With hope we pray, amen.**

**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you!

**C: And also with you!**

P: Lift up your hearts!

**C: We lift them to the Lord!**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise!**

**\*PREFACE**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.  
In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have opened the eyes of faith  
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,  
that, beholding the God made visible,  
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C:** Our Father in Heaven  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive  
those who sin against us  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

Padre nuestro que estás en el Cielo,  
santificado sea tu nombre,  
venga a nosotros tu Reino,  
hágase tu voluntad  
en la Tierra como en el Cielo.  
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.  
Perdona nuestras ofensas,  
como también  
perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.  
No nos dejes caer en tentación,  
y líbranos del mal.  
Porque tuyo es el Reino, tuyo el Poder,  
y tuya la Gloria,  
ahora y siempre. Amén.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table for communion, regardless of age or church membership. Come forward up the center aisle, taking an empty cup from the tray at the front. Follow the direction of the ushers and kneel or stand at the rail. The Bread Minister will hand you a piece of bread (gluten-free wafers are available, just ask the bread minister). There are two Wine Ministers. The first pouring chalice offers wine and the second chalice is grape juice.

If you choose not to receive communion, you may come forward for a blessing from the Bread Minister. Crossing your arms over your chest will indicate that you would prefer a blessing.

If you have difficulty coming to the front, please notify an usher and communion will gladly be brought to you.

## \*LAMB OF GOD

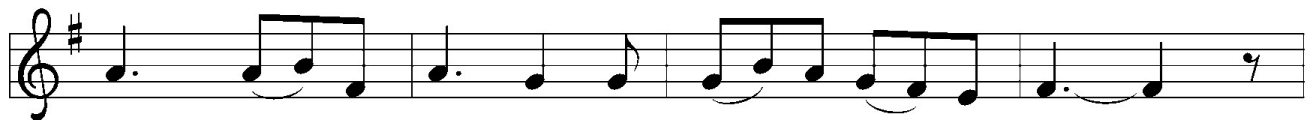
ELW 199



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

*Aria on Greensleeves*

--James Biery (b.1956)

## \*BLESSING FROM THE TABLE

## \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- A: Merciful God,  
C: **we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.  
Strengthened by this goodness,  
send us forth to announce your peace,  
comfort the afflicted,  
and share the good news of great joy.  
Amen.**

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

**P:** As you leave *this* service, *your* service begins:  
 Comfort the homesick.  
 Open your doors to others.  
 Seek sanctuary.  
 Be brave enough to go home by another way.  
 And remember that here in God's house, all are welcomed—so come back soon.  
 In the name of our Foundation—God, Spirit, and Son ⊕ —  
 go in peace.

**C:** Amen

**\*SENDING HYMN**

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*

**WOV 646**



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
 bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,  
 owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
 God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

**\*DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern 'How beautifully the morning star shines'*  
-- Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Peace values music highly, so some may choose to remain in the sanctuary for the postlude.

Others may choose to leave quietly at that time.

All are welcome to gather in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and fellowship.

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**Ministers and Staff**

The Congregation Members of Peace Lutheran Church  
Rev. Hannah DiPasquale, Pastor  
Sandy Johnson, Office Administrator (office@peacelutheranlc.com)  
Jieun Newland, Music Minister  
Tommy Grimes, Custodian

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS - January 5**

**If you have Prayer Requests to be included in the Prayers of the Day**, please write them before the service on the Prayer Request sheet found on the stand in the narthex.

**Poinsettias for Christmas.** You can take yours home today.

**Taking Down the Greens** - Plan to stay after worship today to help with taking down the greens as we replace our Christmas decorations for the move into the season after Epiphany.

**Worship Planning Meeting** - Wednesday, January 8th, 6:30pm. Pr Hannah will be hosting a meeting to plan worship for spring/Lent/Easter. If you have ideas to share, or just want to be a part of the conversation, please plan to join us! This meeting is open to anyone from the congregation. Feel free to bring dinner with you. Zoom can be available, reach out to Pr Hannah or the office if you'd like to Zoom into the meeting.

**Vegan/Vegetarian Cook Off!** The Green Team is sponsoring a Vegan/Vegetarian Cook Off! next Sunday, January 12, during Fellowship Hour. Bring a dish to share along with the recipe that can be photographed by people who love your dish! Plan to stand behind your dish and spoon out small portions to each taker. The winner will receive a medal and have their recipe published in our February newsletter. Join the fun and eat healthy and earth-wise! For more information, contact Amanda or anyone on the Green Team.

**BSC is in need of volunteers as they continue to assist refugees for the next 2 weeks until inauguration day.**

**Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains is receiving a high number of refugee families and individuals within the next several weeks and is in need of support from volunteers.**

There are many opportunities to volunteer, whether it be an in person role like grocery shopping with a new arrival, or a behind the scenes role like cooking a hot meal for a newcomer. If you are interested in volunteering in anyway, or have questions about volunteer opportunities, please contact Linda Lardner at [linda.lardner@lfsrm.org](mailto:linda.lardner@lfsrm.org) or 575-323-1818.

**Our online worship now** on our YouTube channel (previously we used Zoom) on Sundays at 9am. Anyone can access the livestream, and chat will be enabled so that you can talk to us and others joining worship. The live video will appear when we go live on Sunday. The worship videos will remain on our YouTube channel for later viewing. Search "Peace Lutheran Church Las Cruces, NM" on YouTube or visit: <https://www.youtube.com/@peacelutheranchurch1668>

**The Flower Chart for 2025 is posted** on the Kiosk in the Narthex. Sign up to donate for coming Sundays. The cost is \$45.

**Correction to calendar published in Newsletter: January 10 : the office will be open**

**Worship Assistants - TODAY**

*Assisting Minister:* Ryan Cull  
*Lector:* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Greeter:* Gene & Karen Quandt  
*Communion Server:* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Ushers:* Penny & Marv Smith

*Technology (3):* \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Karen Harvey, Kathie Rich,  
 Mary Luckie  
*Altar Care:* Hilkka Byrd  
*Bulletins:* Deb Sarabia

**Worship Assistants - January 12**

*Assisting Minister:* Kathie Rich  
*Lector:* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Greeters:* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Communion Server:* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Ushers:* \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
*Technology (2):* \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
*Altar Care:* Hilkka Byrd  
*Bulletins:* Barb Patton, Deb Sarabia

**SCHEDULE - January 5-12**

Sun., Jan. 5	9:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour
	10:15 a.m.	Taking Down the Greens
Wed., Jan. 8	3:00 p.m.	Finance Committee
	5:00 p.m.	Choir
	6:30 p.m.	Worship Planning Meeting
Thurs.. Jan. 9	4:00 p.m.	Ana's Place
Fri.. Jan. 10	4:00 p.m.	Ana's Place
		Gettysburg College BSC Immersion Group arrives
Sun., Jan. 12	9:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour
	10:00 a.m.	Vegan/Vegetarian Cook-Off

+++++

OA - Overeaters Anon: 9:30 a.m. - Sa  
 AA - Downtown Group: 5:30 p.m. - Su, M, Tu, Th, F, Sa  
                                   7:00 p.m. - W  
                                   8:00 p.m. - Sa  
 AA - Primary Purpose: 7:00 p.m. - F